



August 2, 2005

Additional comments on California Water Plan Update 2005

Recommendation 5 (page 10-6) should also include maximizing opportunities for the onsite capture of stormwater, a practice well suited to a multi-objective approach to flood control.

We appreciate the mention of TreePeople's work on page 15-2. Some of our projects *have* involved strategies to increase infiltration, but they've focused on reducing hardscape and creating temporary storage rather than protecting existing recharge areas. We've demonstrated both infiltration and storage/reuse as practices for managing urban runoff, so this reference would probably fit better in Chapter 21.

The list of objectives in Chapter 21 should include the augmentation of groundwater supplies (by infiltrating captured stormwater runoff), water conservation (by storing stormwater for nonpotable uses and reducing the unnecessary use of potable water) and, particularly in Southern California, reducing the demand for imported water.

Paragraph 2 on page 21-3 suggests the desirability of making statewide information on urban runoff management available. That should be an explicit goal.

The page 21-5 discussion of the effects of urban runoff on groundwater quality should mention the multiagency Water Augmentation Study being conducted by the L.A. and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council. The ongoing effort has so far compiled 3-4 years of relevant data for enhanced infiltration sites in the L.A. Basin.

On page 21-5, Goal 4 is particularly important and the state should also strengthen its structural and financial support for the work of overcoming regulatory barriers.

We commend the Department of Water Resources for its inclusive approach to updating the water plan and for the impressive results. We appreciate the opportunity to participate and regret that staffing and funding constraints made it impossible for us to do so more fully.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David O'Donnell".

David O'Donnell
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